Central Intelligence Agency

ER 78-9739/4



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Washington, D. C. 20505

Executive Registry

1 9 AUG 1978

Hearings

Honorable Louis Stokes, Chairman Select Committee on Assassinations House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of 28 July 1978 assuring me of timely liaison between your staff and mine on the details of the planned public hearings. I appreciate the positive tone of your response.

In order to facilitate consideration of some of the problems to be resolved under the liaison arrangement you mention as well as under our agreements and policies already established by the Congress for handling classified subject matter, I would like to mention some of the categories of information which cannot be disclosed in public testimony. These items fall into the categories of intelligence sources and methods which the Director must protect under the 1947 National Security Act. CIA's relationships with foreign intelligence and security organizations are sensitive; and must be protected, since some have political ramifications of considerable importance. Various clandestine operations in foreign countries, conducted alone by CIA or with host government services, should be protected from public disclosure. Specific operations, either by clandestine agents or by technical means, are subject to the same considerations. The identities of agents, and their use even if not identified, should not be divulged. And, of course, current employees whose future service depends upon maintenance of their cover should not be revealed in public testimony. Former employees who reside abroad need continued protection for a number of reasons, not the least of which are their personal safety and in some instances their livelihood.

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Obviously, there is a wide variety of subject matter that should be recognized as requiring protection and as not properly subject to treatment in public hearings. We would, of course, be prepared to work with you on an appropriate agenda for executive sessions. I think you will agree that timely, advance discussion of this is important to an acceptable resolution of problems that could otherwise arise if not handled expeditiously in the near future.

Your earliest attention to this matter is of considerable importance to us in looking ahead to the public hearings.

Sincerely,

181 Frank C. Carlucci

Frank C. Carlucci

cc: Honorable Richardson Preyer Honorable Samuel L. Devine

Distribution:

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9 August 1978

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Frank:

The attached letter has been redone incorporating your changes.

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Honorable Louis Stokes, Chairman Select Committee on Assassinations House of Representatives Washington, D.C.

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## Approved For Release 2004/10/12: CIA-RDP81M00980R000200060040-0

Your earliest attention to this matter is of considerable importance to us in looking ahead to the public hearings.

Sincerely,

Frank C. Carlucci

cc: Honorable Richardson Preyer Honorable Samuel L. Devine

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Belect Committee on Assassinations

26 July 28

(202) 225-4624

Cl. S. Mouse of Representatives some house office building, annex & Washington, D.C. 20015

July 28, 1978

Mr. Frank C. Carlucci Deputy Director Contral Intelligence Agency Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Carlucci:

This will acknowledge your letter of July 26, 1978 concerning the up-coming public hearings scheduled by the Select Committee on Assassinations.

The Committee is, of course, cognizant of the sensitive nature of the planning of these hearings and you may be assured that the Select Committee staff will be alerted to the concerns of the Central Intelligence Agency. Every effort will be made to maintain a liaison with your staff concerning the development of the public hearings.

Sincerely

LOUIS STORES Chairman

LS:dm

LEXECUTIVE RESISTRY FILE:

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